LA COUNTY LIBRARY

Activity Idea

COINS, COINS, COINS

Recommended for Ages 4-6

Use your spare change to give kids experience with real coins. Here are some activities that will strengthen their math skills.

Sorting
Put out containers and let your child sort the pile of coins. Use sticky notes or pieces of paper to write down the names of each coin next to the container.

Make Patterns
Use the coins to make patterns. Ask your child what coin would come next in the patterns and encourage them to add to the pattern. Possible patterns: PNPNPN, QDNQDNQDN, PNDQPNDQ, PQDDPQDD, the possibilities are endless. Let your child make patterns.

Counting by 5s and 10s
Show your child five pennies equals one nickel and ten pennies equal one dime. Practice counting by fives and 10s pointing to each coin or group of coins as you count.

How Many Ways?
How many ways can you make 25 cents? Help your child count out the different combinations of coins to equal 25 cents. Try other amounts.

Coin Rubbings
Grab paper and pencil or colored pencils. Put a coin under the paper and color over the coin creating a rubbing of the coin. Cover the paper with rubbings of the different coins. After, ask your child to match the coins to the rubbings.